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ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY ASPECTS OF THE FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS: FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS

Report of the Fifth Committee (Part V)

Rapporteur: Mr. Mahbub KABIR (Bangladesh)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 138 appear in the report of the Committee contained in document A/48/807 and Add.1, 2 and 3.

2. At its 69th and 70th meetings, on 29 June 1994, the Fifth Committee considered the item entitled "Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations: financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations". Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/48/SR.69 and 70).

II. CONSIDERATION OF A DRAFT DECISION PRESENTED ORALLY BY THE CHAIRMAN

3. At the 70th meeting, on 29 June, the Chairman orally presented a draft decision which the Committee adopted without a vote (see para. 5).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

4. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Support account for peace-keeping operations

The General Assembly:

Decides to maintain the current level of resources approved under the support account for peace-keeping operations for the month of July 1994.

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ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY ASPECTS OF THE FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS: FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS

Report of the Fifth Committee (Part VI)

Rapporteur: Mr. Mahbub KABIR (Bangladesh)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 138 appear in the report of the Committee contained in the documents A/48/807 and Add.1 to 4.

2. At its 71st and 75th meetings, on 6 and 19 July 1994, the Fifth Committee considered the item entitled "Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations: financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations". Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/48/SR.71 and 75).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.5/48/L.81

3. At the 75th meeting, on 19 July, the representative of Portugal introduced a draft resolution entitled "Support account for peace-keeping operations" (A/C.5/48/L.81), which was submitted on the basis of informal consultations, and orally amended operative paragraph 3 thereof as follows:

> "Agrees to continue, on a temporary and exceptional basis, funding of the decision contained in its resolution 48/226 B until its consideration of the report requested in paragraph 10 of the present resolution".

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/48/L.81 without a vote (see para. 7).

B. Draft decision A/C.5/48/L.90

5. At the 75th meeting, the representative of Portugal introduced a draft decision entitled "Financing of United Nations peace-keeping operations" (A/C.5/48/L.90), which was submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.5/48/L.90 without a vote (see para. 8).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

7. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Support account for peace-keeping operations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/258 of 3 May 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 48/226 A of 23 December 1993 and 48/226 B of 5 April 1994, and decision 48/489 of 8 July 1994,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the support account for peace-keeping operations 1/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2/

Noting the intention of the Secretary-General to build up the number of regular budget posts to support and backstop peace-keeping operations and the different views expressed by Member States thereon,

Reaffirming the need to continue to improve the administrative and financial management of peace-keeping operations,

1. Endorses the recommendations and observations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2/ subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. Authorizes the continued funding of the existing posts approved from the support account for peace-keeping operations based on its resolution 48/226 A;

1/ A/48/470/Add.1.

2/ A/48/955.

3. Agrees to continue, on a temporary and exceptional basis, funding of the decision contained in its resolution 48/226 B until its consideration of the report requested in paragraph 10 of the present resolution;

4. Authorizes, on an exceptional basis, in order to allow for consideration at its forty-ninth session of the report referred to in paragraph 10 of the present resolution, the sum of up to 1 million United States dollars for general temporary assistance for the period from 1 July to 31 December 1994, to be devoted to meeting essential workload requirements, particularly those relating to the administrative and logistical functions of the Department of Peace-keeping Operations, to continued funding of the position of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General and to funding of the posts requested in paragraph 33 of the report of the Secretary-General; 1/

5. Also authorizes the resources for general temporary assistance (167,700 dollars), overtime (80,000 dollars), travel on official business (140,000 dollars) and specialized equipment for the Situation Centre (592,000 dollars) as recommended in paragraph 59 of the report of the Advisory Committee, 2/ and authorizes the non-post resources for training (480,000 dollars) requested in annex IV to the report of the Secretary-General; 1/

6. Reaffirms that the posts funded by the support account to support and backstop peace-keeping operations must be, unless otherwise decided by the General Assembly, temporary posts, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its forty-ninth session, in the context of the report referred to in paragraph 10 of the present resolution, proposals regarding the status of posts financed by the support account;

7. Notes the request of the Advisory Committee that the Secretary-General submit a report on the various aspects related to the secondment to the Department of Peace-keeping Operations, at no cost to the United Nations, of military and civilian personnel by a number of Member States, and requests that this report address the question of providing reimbursement of expenses to those personnel;

8. Decides that the current 8.5 per cent charge against civilian staff costs included in peace-keeping shall be maintained for the time being and that amounts contributed by individual peace-keeping budgets shall be adjusted to reflect actual levels of expenditure on civilian staff expenses;

9. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States and the Advisory Committee, to develop a more transparent document for presenting all resource allocations from the support account, along with information concerning related staff and non-staff resources financed from the regular budget;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report, as soon as possible, to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session pursuant to the recommendation contained in paragraph 21 of the report of the Advisory Committee; 2/

11. Also requests the Secretary-General to use the funds in the support account for only those posts approved by the General Assembly;

12. Further requests the Secretary-General to apply approved classification procedures and standards to all posts funded through the support account;

13. Requests the Secretary-General, in preparing future funding proposals for the support account, to review the continued need for all previously approved resources;

14. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the item entitled "Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations".

* * *

8. The Fifth Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations

The General Assembly:

(a) Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session proposals to accelerate reimbursements to troop-contributing countries, and if possible to incorporate lessons to be drawn from the United Nations Operation in Mozambique;

(b) Also requests the Secretary-General to study the feasibility of a procedure by which assets to be redeployed from a peace-keeping operation during its liquidation phase to other peace-keeping operations or other United Nations bodies should be transferred only after the value of the assets has been determined and provision made, in the budgets of the receiving operations, to reimburse the special account of the operation from which the assets are provided, this liability to be met as expeditiously as possible upon the receipt of funds.